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1989/06/03

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US

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Department of State



15409
INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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ACTION EAP-00

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ACTION OFFICE CH-01

INFO P-01 RA-01 EAP-03 /012 A3 FL

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-07 SS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 U-01
NSCE-00 NSAC-00 SSO-00 NA-09 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-10
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CONFIDENTIAL BEIJING 15409

OPS CENTER PLS PASS TO SECRETARY BAKER FROM AMBASSADOR

FOR EAP/CH DICK WILLIAMS

E.O. 12356:DECL:OADR
TAGS: PREL, CH, US
SUBJECT: SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR CNN INTERVIEW

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

2. I SUGGEST THAT YOU MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN YOUR INTERVIEW ON CNN:

- A. TODAY WE ARE WITNESSING A MASSIVE OUTPOURING OF BEIJING CITIZENS TO PREVENT THE ENTRY OF LARGE NUMBERS OF CHINESE ARMY TROOPS INTO THE CENTER OF BEIJING. BY BLOCKING MILITARY UNITS ALL OVER THE CITY THESE CHINESE CITIZENS ARE MAKING A PASSIONATE STATEMENT IN FAVOR OF DEMOCRACY AND AGAINST THE USE OF MILITARY FORCE. THIS IS AN ACTION THAT WE FAVOR AS WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY DONE IN THE PAST IN THE PHILIPPINES, KOREA, AND ELSEWHERE.

- B. WE HOPE THE CHINESE ARMY WILL EXERCISE RESTRAINT. IF THE MILITARY USES FORCE AGAINST ITS OWN FELLOW-CITIZENS, THIS WOULD DISTURB THIS GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. WE HOPE THAT THE CHINESE ARMY, WHICH HAS ALWAYS CALLED ITSELF THE ARMY OF THE PEOPLE, WILL NOT BE USED TO SUPPRESS THE CHINESE PEOPLE.

- C. FIVE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS INCLUDING PRESIDENT BUSH HAVE WORKED TO BUILD A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES. WE WISH THE CHINESE PEOPLE WELL AS THEY STRIVE TO MODERNIZE THEIR COUNTRY AND WE INTEND TO BE A MAJOR PARTICIPANT IN THIS PROCESS. IT IS MY HOPE THAT NOTHING THAT HAPPENS IN THESE CRITICAL DAYS WILL WEAKEN THE BASIS FOR OUR SUPPORT.

- D. OUR CONCERN ABOUT EVENTS IN BEIJING OF COURSE ALSO EXTENDS TO THE WELFARE OF AMERICANS THERE. OUR EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE PERSONALLY URGED ALL AMERICANS TO LEAVE THE AREA AROUND TIANANMEN SQUARE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOTELS OR HOMES FOR THEIR SAFETY. OUR OFFICERS HAVE LIMITED THEIR OWN MOVEMENTS IN THE DANGER AREAS AND OUR TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR CHINA REMAINS IN EFFECT.

COMMENT

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United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
Review Authority: MILLER, ROBERT
Date: 01/16/96
Case ID: 9205307

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